LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-8. (CANCELED)

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for the production of a composite multilayer material having a backing layer, a bearing metal layer of a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy, a nickel intermediate layer and an overlay consisting of about 0 - 20 wt.% copper and about 0 - 20 wt.% silver, the combined maximum wt.% of copper and silver being about 20 wt.%, the rest being bismuth, and the layer thickness of the nickel layer amounts to more than 4 µm by electrodeposition, in which the overlay is deposited from an aqueous-based electrolyte system comprising:

20-100 g/l bismuth methanesulfonate,

0.1- 30 g/l copper methanesulfonate,

0.1 - 2 g/l silver methanesulfonate,

80 - 250 g/l methanesulfonic acid,

20 - 100 g/l nonionic wetting agent,

5 - 40 g/l grain refining agent,

1 - 4 g/l resorcinol, and

30 - 150 g/l thiourea.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method as claimed in claim 9, **wherein** the grain refining agent is based on an acrylic acid derivative and alkylaryl polyglycol ether.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as claimed in claim 9, **wherein** the nonionic wetting agent is based on aryl polyglycol ether and/or alkylaryl polyglycol ether.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as claimed in claim 9 further including forming the composite multilayer material into ~~A method of production of~~ plain bearings or bushings ~~having the following steps:~~

~~applying a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy onto a backing layer as bearing metal layer;~~

~~applying a nickel intermediate layer having a thickness greater than 4 µm onto the bearing metal layer; and~~

~~electrodepositing an overlay consisting of about 0 - 20 wt.% copper and silver, the rest being bismuth onto the nickel intermediate layer~~.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 12 further including heat treating the plain bearings or bushings for two or more hours.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 13 further including maintaining the temperature during heat treatment between 150 - 170°C.

Claims 15 and 16 (CANCELLED)

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 12 further including forming the bearings as [[A]] crankshaft main bearings ~~consisting of a composite multilayer material having a backing layer, a bearing metal layer of a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy, a nickel intermediate layer and an overlay, wherein the overlay comprises about 0 - 20 wt.% copper and/or silver, the rest being bismuth, and the layer thickness of the nickel layer amounts to more than 4 µm~~.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 12 further including forming the bearings as [[A]] connecting rod bearings ~~consisting of a composite multilayer material having a backing layer, a bearing metal layer of a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy, a nickel intermediate layer and an overlay, wherein the overlay comprises about 0 - 20 wt.% copper and/or silver, the rest being bismuth, and the layer thickness of the nickel layer amounts to more than 4 µm~~.